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(30) Priority: **19.11.2014 US 201414547616**

(54) **BONE PLATES, PLATE ALIGNMENT SYSTEMS, AND METHODS OF USE**

(57) The present invention discloses a step off bone plate, bone plate insertion system, and method of use. The step off bone plate includes a body with a first end and a second end, the body includes a first portion with a first curvature, a second portion with a second curva-

ture, and a connecting portion coupled to the first portion at a first end and coupled to the second portion at a second end. The bone plate insertion system includes a step off bone plate and an alignment guide apparatus. A method of using the step off bone plate is also disclosed.

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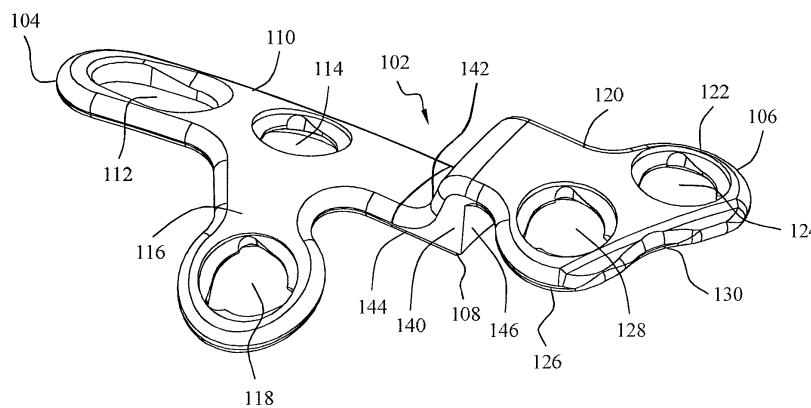


FIG. 1

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims				
Place of search Berlin		Date of completion of the search 21 July 2016	Examiner Nice, Philip	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Berlin		Date of completion of the search 21 July 2016	Examiner Nice, Philip
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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

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1. claims: 1-5

Curved bone plate with specified radii of curvature

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2. claims: 6-11

Curved bone plate with one lobe offset from another

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3. claim: 12

Curved bone plate with one portion comprising an extension arm which is angled toward another portion

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4. claims: 13-15

Curved bone plate with alignment guide apparatus

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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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5 This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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